(d) On the basis of the assessment made by the Life Insurance Corporation of India, there appears to be good demand for technical and advance management training in the field of insurance administration among the countries in the Latin American and African regions. By improving infrastructural facilities in our training centres, and by developing proper training packages, it is felt that foreign participation can be attracted on a significant scale.

NRI owned Commercial Bank in India

830. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bank of Baroda has proposal under its consideration to lend managerial experitise to run a NRI owned commercial bank in India;

(b) whether it is also a fact that such a proposal was mooted by NRIs based in Dubai; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) to (c) Bank of Baroda have reported that during the recent visit of their Chairman and Managing Director to U.A.E., some NRIs had approached him with a proposal to set up a commercial bank in India and solicited Bank of Baroda's managerial expertise. Chairman and Managing Director informed them that in case their proposal is approved by authorities in India, Bank of Baroda would consider their request on merits.

Exporters Exploiting havala market

831. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government's attention have been drawn to the news published in Financial Express of the 3rd January, 1992 captioned "Exporters exploiting havala market"; and

(b) If so, what steps are being taken to prevent the exporters claiming duty drawback and exim scrip through similar fake exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) The Government is aware of the news item published in the Delhi Edition of the Financial Express dated 3-1-92 under the caption "Exporters exploiting havala market".

(b) Test check of all export cargo with emphasis on cargo exported under claim for drawback of duty is carried out by the Customs staff at the port of shipment/airport, to thwart possible attempts at misdeclaration of goods, with the objective of fraudulently claiming duty drawback and eximscrip. In cases where export cargo has already been examined and sealed by Customs and Central Excise personnel at Inland Container Depots or premises of manufacturers, the seals are examined by the Customs staff at the port of shipment/airport to ensure they are intact, before allowing exports.

The field formations of the Customs Deptt. a swell as concerned enforcement agencies have been alerted against such modus operandi, Payment of drawback is denied in case misdeclaration of export is detected, apart from other action under under the Customs Act. The authorities issuing eximscrips are empowered to deny eximscrips or to reduce their value, in cases of detection of misdeclaration of export goods, apart from other action under the imprt-export statute.

Seizure at HMT Factory at Ranibagh

832. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether smuggled watch cases, dial and hands of the Elegance series parts of foreign origin were seized by the Customs from the premises of HMT Watch factory at Ranibagh and if so, what are the details thereof;